

## The Internet Sucks

I read this [old article yesterday](#) and had to think about it a little. Somehow the internet has turned into shit in the last years. It is censored by politicians and secret services, opinions are manipulated and fake news is produced. It has developed into a game ball of governments and corporations in which the user only plays a subordinate role. At the beginning I had hundreds of websites which I visited at regular intervals. I wrote down a list of domains on paper so that I wouldn't forget these *important* websites. There were no search engines yet and everything was like an impenetrable jungle. Links could go anywhere and through the slow 56K modem you sometimes had to wait up to half an hour before a website was loaded. If it was worth it could not be said beforehand. In the years the internet has changed or I just got older. Because I don't miss the time that was described in the New Yorker article, because I learned to love the Internet. Unfortunately it is such a difficult thing with long friendships. Sometimes you have to go new ways. Look around a little. Break off relationships and dare something new. Sometimes you just have to turn the reset button and restart the whole system. Like a computer that has grown old and slow over the years.

I had registered with Twitter once again and wanted to see if there was any improvement within the community. No, it didn't. People still hate each other all the time and one terrible message follows the next. Every day a new sow is driven through the village and also the numerous old acquaintances had changed. It was like a party with people you hadn't seen for 20 years and you realized that for a while you had a lot of fun together. Unfortunately you can't turn the clock back and everything remains in a blurry fog of memory. Maybe only our society has changed to a negative one and transfers that to the digital world. I am only a computer scientist and not a social scientist, so I don't have good answers for most of my questions. Maybe we should give up the Internet and look for something new. Risk a fresh start as pioneers work on a crazy idea again. But wasn't the Internet already the craziest idea mankind has ever had? To let as many people as possible get in touch with each other. To play MUDS, to chat, to exchange pictures and to help each other.

YOU ARE STANDING AT THE END OF A ROAD BEFORE A SMALL BRICK BUILDING.  
AROUND YOU IS A FOREST. A SMALL STREAM FLOWS OUT OF THE BUILDING AND  
DOWN A GULLY.

go south

YOU ARE IN A VALLEY IN THE FOREST BESIDE A STREAM TUMBLING ALONG A  
ROCKY BED.

go west

YOU FELL INTO A PIT AND BROKE EVERY BONE IN YOUR BODY!

NOW YOU'VE REALLY DONE IT! I'M OUT OF ORANGE SMOKE! YOU DON'T EXPECT  
ME TO DO A DECENT REINCARNATION WITHOUT ANY ORANGE SMOKE, DO YOU?

yes

Where is the fun in the Internet? Every Youtuber is a professional content creator, every website a start-up. On Instagram you have to be an influencer to get a few minutes of attention at all. Twitter is an information machine where news is produced on the assembly line. No matter which community you visit, you will find reposts. Everything is repeated until it comes out of your ears. Memes that appear again and again in a modified form and are forgotten again after a few hours. At Reddit, Twitter, Hackaday or news.ycombinator. The internet sucks and most people know that, even if they try to talk themselves into something else. But unfortunately I don't feel like spending the rest of my life in a digital loop, because my lifetime is too important for that. I would like to have a virtual reality. Free from all the shit we just have to endure. Free from politics and religion. Free of ideologies and propaganda. A digital reality in which people are treated equally and with respect. In which groups do not organize themselves and rush against users who think differently, just because they may have a different opinion. We are not losing the fight for a better Internet, because we have already lost it. Lost to stupid people with too much power. The most wonderful invention of mankind is just developing into our downfall. A weapon that kills people in the real world. A weapon that kills us. The internet sucks.

OKAY, IF YOU'RE SO SMART, DO IT YOURSELF! I'M LEAVING!